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THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, MAY 13, 1850.

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THE MOTHER-IN-LAW. A STORY OF THE ISLAND ESTATE. BY MRS. EMMA D. E. SOUTHWORTH.

BOOK SECOND.

IX.
MRS. GENERAL STUART-GORDON AT HOME. Oh, sweetly is bedecked her bower, and gorgeously her halls; Here treads the foot on springing buds, and there on velvet

The massy curtain's graceful flow, the vase, the jainting

Exotics that perfume the air with odors sweet and strange, And shells that far in foreign climes mid ocean w

With countless gifts of taste and art, in classic beauty rife,

It was autumn before the Stuart-Gordons re turned to the Isle of Rays. It was impossible to tell which were the prouder-General Stuart-Gordon of his brilliant young bride, or Britannia of her grand old husband. She gloried in him; there is no error upon this subject-it is the (Ann. 'And he delighted to the, brightening and gladdening in her presence—that is another truth. And the Isle of Rays itself flashed, sparkled, and scintillated more splendidly than ever, when illuminated by the presence of Britannia. As for Louise, you know she was a ninny, and as

for Louis, he was a pale face; the Island Palace was quite thrown away upon them. They might wander among the groves and arbors, with music and poetry, and such nonsense, all day, but the halls and saloons of the Island Palace were alone fitted for our grand General Stuart-Gordon and our brilliant Britannia. Mrs. Armstrong might our brilliant Britannia! Mrs. Armstrong might of the say as she pleased, but her downy-hearted little Louise never could have "done" the Island Palace. For my part, I think each pair was well bestowed, and I sympathize with Brighty and the General—don't you? Mrs. General Stuart-Gordon came home in state, and astonished the neighborhood with many innovations. A new and splendid carriage was set up—five Arabian met little white wrists that ever were seen. our brilliant Britannia. Mrs. Armstrong might

the darkeys, they were delighted with their new

liveries as ever raw recruits with new uniform, or

done nothing with this establishment without me! You would never have thought of any improve ments! You would have received no suggestion from the gentlemen of the family. Men are apathetic in domestic matters-never think of refining their own comforts, while yet they keenly relish these comforts when quietly falling in their daily life. I admire keen and delicate censes, as an evidence of perfect physical development, but I do not like to see a lofty mind always debased in the service of these senses. I would not have the General thinking always of his dinner, his lounge, and his chibaque, though it gives me pleasure to see that he enjoys them, when, in the slipping off of the hours, they properly succeed physical or intellectual exertion."

Louise was pale, dispirited, disinclined to converse at all, still less to cavil at anything Britannia might say or do. "You are so pensive, Louise-and you always

are, even by the side of Louis. By the way, where is the young gentleman this morning?" "Gone over to the Crags to see Miss Somer ville. He seemed very anxious to meet her, and

so he left me immediately after breakfast." "I wish he would not go there," said Britan nia; then, immediately repenting her hasty

speech, she paused abruptly. Louise looked at her with a slightly querulous expression upon her pretty features, and asked-

Why, Britannia - why do you wish Louis would not go there?" "My love, it is time to dress; some one will be calling here to-day; ring for Fleurine."

"But, Brighty, why do you wish Louis would not call at the Crags?" persisted Louise, glancing keenly but fortively at Britannia's face. Mrs. Stuart-Gordon turned her eyes full upon

the face of Louise, and, looking at her steadily replied, slowly and gravely-Because Susan Somerville is a grief-stricken woman, and the visit of a gay young bridegroom

may be unwelcome, as unsuitable." Louise dropped her eyes beneath the steady,

rebuking gaze, and sighed. " Now, Mrs. Louis, will you please to dress for

"Oh, Britannia, I will dress; but I want to see my mother so much f" The carriage is at your command, Mrs.

"Oh. Britannia, I cannot go alone! The Ger

eral might not like it-Louis might not "-"I hope there is not a negro on this plantation as great a slave as you are, Mrs. Louis. Why should they dislike it? Why should they ston you if they did! You pay a poor compliment to General and Mrs. Stuart-Gordon. If they disliked any act of yours, Louise, believe me, neither would think of imposing a single restraint upon your actions; and, indeed, I should very much dislike to see them make the attempt. Poor little thing, you have been confined and fettered

so long, that you have lost the use of yourself. YOU ARE PREE! Can I not electrify you with the fact into some life! Pray use your freedom a little. Ring and order your carriage at your own house; and go-try it, to see how it will

"Yes! why don't you swagger, Louise! make

door, and a lady came down. I never indulged Mrs. Armstrong—even her High-loftiness—in such notions. Oh! have you seen your mother, Louise?"

"Oh, no, dear Gertrude! I have not even "Quite well, I am much obliged to you. Your appearance saves me the necessity of inquiring"

that! How is she, Gertrude? Can you tell of congratulating you upon the subject." Then

"Mrs. Armstrong keeps very close house—sees no one but the minister and the doctor"—

"The doctor! Is my mother in bad health?"

"Well, no; I do not think so, but having nothing else to smuse herself with, she thinks of nothing but herself, her own body, and her own soul—which is the reason, I suppose."

"Oh Brighty, you hear! My mother in bad health?" "I do not believe it!" sald Mrs. Stuart-

Gordon.

"Well, good bye, good bye! I must go, I must go! I should smother in sweets here!

" Some leve to roam o'er the wide sea foam, Where the shrill winds whistle free, But a chosen band in a mountain land,

And, singing and shouting, she ran and bounded down the stairs and out of the house.

"Oh, Brighty! do you mark that! My mother in bad health!"

"I do not believe so, Louise. Her minister and physician visit to amuse her, while they eat her

"Oh, Brighty, this family estrangement is killing to me; it is, indeed it is! Four months I have not heard from my mother! ', her only child, who never left her an hour during sixteen years. Oh, Brighty! go with me to see her!"

"My dist' Lound, Y will district you. It positively necessary, but my opinion is that you had better go alone. My visit might not be accept-

"But oh, Brighty! do go. Surely you owe that much to my mother!"
"I sent her our cards yesterday, she therefore

knows that we are at home!"
"That was a proud thing in you to do, Brigh-

I was dealing with a proud woman !" "It would have been more friendly to have driven over to Mout Crystal, this morning!" "Mrs. Armstrong should call here."
"Oh, Britannia! Britannia! do not cherish

and splendid carriage was set up—five Arabian horses purchased—servants put in livery—three white domestics engaged, namely, a Parisian girl as lady's maid, an English matron as housekeeper, and a French cook.

What was the harm of it? It was not extravagance. General Stuart-Gordon could well afford twice the expenditure. It made everybody

ford twice the expenditure. It made everybody Oh! I feel a sense of guilt, of treachery even, baby boys with their first breeches.

The day succeeding the arrival, the two ladies were seated together in the luxurious boudoir of Britannia.

"In truth, my dear Louise, you could have "The man bowed and withdrew. "Now, love, go

make your toilet."

Britannia proceeded to make hers. In truth,
Britannia herself desired the reconciliation of the
families. A house divided against itself cannot stand. Britannia knew that the houses of Mont Crystal and of the Isle of Rays were all-powerful united; that, divided, they parted the influence over the neighborhood. Besides, Britannia saw over the neighborhood. Besides, Britannia saw that Gen. Stuart-Gordon, whom she adored, was himself uneasy at this estrangement, and she wished to see him comfortable. In addition to this, Brighty rather admired Mrs. Armstrong in some respects—rather sympathized with her pride, and cherished rather pleasant recollections of her late home at Mont Crystal. The reader must have observed one peculiarity of Brighty—namely, the propensity to look on the bright side of every event and the fair side of every character; thus, though she perceived the darker traits of Mrs. though she perceived the darker traits of Mrs. Armstrong's character, she never dwelt upon them in her heart; and though she had experi-

Armstrong's character, and hough she had experienced some disagreeable things at Mont Crystal, she only brought away with her its pleasant memories. This was no happy system of philosophy with Brighty; it was simply her happy nature. And then Britannia sympathized with Louise's sorrow, and with Louis, as suffering with Louise. Lastly, Brighty, like her old General, was too cordial-hearted not to like family peace and good fellowship. But as there is a leaven of unrighteousness in most human motives, so Brighty took a little wicked, womanish pleasure in going in state to make, a visit of ceremony at the house from which she had been so summarily discharged five months before. Britannia made a grand toilet. Brighty became a rich and tasteful costume perfectly. Her appearance was decidedly distinperfectly. Her appearance was decidedly distinguished. There was an air of high-bred refinement in the expression of her elegantly chiselled profile in repose, and seen beyond the edge of her white French hat and drooping plumes. Never profile in repose, and seen beyond the edge of her white French hat and drooping plumes. Never were satins, velvets, plumes, and cygnet down, better bestowed than upon Britannia. Taking a little card case of wrought gold in her hand, Brighty descended the stairs, where she was soon joined by Louise. They entered the carriage, and were driven to Mont Crystal. Hopes, fears, and anxieties in regard to her reception torturing the heart of Louise—a little genial desire for family amity, a little feminine exultation, agitating the bosom of Brighty, as the carriage crossed the bridge between the island and the shore, and wound up the hill, bringing them in sight of the splendid front of Mont Crystal. The carriage drew up before the massive iron-bound green gate always kept closed. The porter opened it, and the carriage drove up the broad avenue, flanked on each side by a row of locust trees, and stopped before the door. A footman alighted from behind, and opened the door. The heart of Louise paused in its beatings—she could scarcely sit—

rd-Mrs. Gen. STUART-GORDON. "Take this to Mrs. Armstrong." The man bowed, and waited to receive that of

faltered the half-fainting Louise.

The footman went up the broad marble steps, rung, sent in the card. Brighty watched him from the carriage. She smiled to herself, her cheeks flushed, her eyes danced.

"Oh! she will not receive us, I know perfectly well, now," said Brighty.

Brighty was mistaken. "Mrs. Armstrong's compliments, and she feels grateful for Mrs. Gen. Stuart-Gordon's call, and begs that she will alight."
Brighty's heart smote her for pride, vanity,

injustice, in an instant.

"What word did mother send to me—what to me?" asked Louise, nervously.

The footman bowed—"Nothing more, madam."

"Oh! Britannia! she is angry with me! why

is she angry with me?"
"My love, there is some mistake; your meswas not delivered. There is some mista

why don't you swagger, Louise! make a big fuss—sail about the house—order the servants—order the horses—order the master himself—make everybody stand around you, or pitch over each other, in their haste to do your bidding! Oh! you'd see how Pd do it! How do you do, Brighty?" exclaimed the Ger-Palcon, who had swooped suddenly down into this soft cushat's neet.

"How do you do, Miss Lion? I am pleased to receive you."

"Dear Gertrade! what a surprise! We did not hear you come up!"

"Dear Gertrade! what a surprise! We did not hear you come up!"

"How could you hear me run up on those soft woolly carpets? Lord! I wouldn't live in this of her mother and her husband—happy in the love taste the Union."

"How could you hear me run up on those soft woolly carpets? Lord! I wouldn't live in this of her mother and her husband—happy in the love taste the Union."

"Dear Gertrade! I wouldn't live in this of her mother and her husband—happy in the love taste the Union."

house for two General Stuart-Gordons! I couldn't make noise here; if one shouted, the sound would be smothered in satin and down. What a place!"

"Sit down, Gertrude!"

"Can't. Don't like the looks of the place; besidee, I was just going over to the Crags to see poor, dear Susan, and I thought I would not pass you. I thought I would just run up and see you, Mrs. Stuart-Gordon.

"You put quite a surprise upon us," said Britannia.

"A shock, why don't you say? I 'spose I ought to have rung! Lord! I never had patience to wait until a servant came to open the door, and a lady came down. I never indulged Mrs. Armstrong—even her High-loftiness—in Stately affection of General Stuart-Gordon, and in the friendship of Britannia and her young companions. Who could have foreseen the blight that fell upon her joy! The door opened, and Mrs. Armstrong sailed—her stately form, ample robes, and slow gliding step, forcibly suggested the idea of a frigate under full sail. Louise arose to meet her, but growing very weak, she sank again into her seat. Mrs. Armstrong approached, and offering her hand to Britannia, who rose respectfully to receive her, she said—
"I am happy to see you, Mrs. Stuart-Gordon.
Permit me to offer you my best wishes for your happiness in your new position."
Britannia curtsied, sat down, and said—"I hope you have been well sface I had the pleasure of

appearance saves me the necessity of inquiring

turning to Louise, she said—
"My daughter!"
"My dear mother!"
They embraced—Louise sobbed.

They embraced—Louise sobbed.

"I cannot say the same for Mrs. Louis—she does not look well," said Mrs. Armstrong, sitting down in her easy chair.

"I am sorry to admit that Mrs. Louis does not enjoy good health. I have no doubt, however, that meeting with you, madam, will restore her." Mrs. Armstrong looked at her daughter again and with more scrutiny. She was more than ever impressed with the fearful change in Louise's ap-

"Come here, my daughter! Mrs. Stuart-Gordon, will you excuse us? You will find some admirable prints on yonder table. I would have

an interview with my daughter."
Oh! certainly, certainly, Mrs. Armstrong!
am no stranger at Mont Crystal." Mrs. Armstrong left the room with her daugh ter. They went up stairs, into her chamber. Well, my child! you are looking around upo

this room—what emotion does the view awaker in your bosom?" Oh! mother! mother!" exclaimed Louise

throwing herself upon the bosom of her mother.

They sat down upon the cosom of her mother.
They sat down upon a lounge.
"You are looking very thin and pale, Louise!"
"Dis i mother, I have suffered so much!"
"Is Louis kind to you?"
"You!" mother, good as Heaven to me."
"And General Stuart-Gordon?"
"Pate me like a ret bitter more." Pets me like a pet kitten, mamma."

"Treats me better than she treats herself Surses me as though I were her baby, mamma." You are very happy, then ?"

Oh! no, mamma! Why not?" "Oh! mamma, this estrangement!"
"It is very serious, then, on their part. They

speak of me with great aversion!"

"Oh, no! dearest mamma! there is no member of the family who does not deplore it, I am sure; who would not do anything to heal the breach."

"You are looking rery pale, Louise, but perhaps there is a natural cause for this," said the dowager, taking her hand, and looking in her Ma'am ?"

"Ma'am?"
Mrs. Armstrong put a question.

"Oh! no, mamma; no! no!" replied Louise, blushing like a peony. No! no, mamma! nothing of the sort! It was the parting with you, mamma, without taking leave of you. It was the not hearing from you for so long, mamma. And you are looking haggard, mamma; you have been sick."

"I have been sick at heart, Louise!"

"My dear mother!"

have been with you !"

"Oh! very sure, dear mamma. Please don't ask me," plead Louise, crimsoning with confusion "We will rejoin Mrs. Stuart-Gordon now That was all I wished to ascertain," said the dow

reconciled, shall it not?" "Yes, my daughter, as far as it lies in my

power."

"Oh! thank you, dear, dear mamma. Now, now I shall be happy again."

They went down stairs, and entered the crimson drawing-room. Britannia was standing at the table, looking over some prints. She turned smilingly to meet the mother and daughter. She saw nothing in Mrs. Armstrong's face, always cold and impassible; but she saw in Louise's radiant eyes that peace was about to be proclaimed.

"Mrs. Stuart-Gordon, have you any engagement for to-morrow?"

ment for to-morrow?"
"None, madam. Mrs. Louis and myself are perfectly at your disposal to-morrow."
"Then I will waive ceremony, and dine at the

Isle of Rays to-morrow."

Britannia curtsied low, in acknowledgment of this grace. Louise caught her mother's hand and raised it to her lips.

"We shall be most happy to receive you, madam," said Britannia.

"Oh mamma! Louis and the General will be so overjoyed!"
Soon after, the ladies took their leave.
"A proud, presuming huzzy," exclaimed
Armstrong, as the carriage rolled away. "

Armstrong, as the carriage rolled away. "How dare she, after ejecting my daughter from her full position in that family—how dare she come here, with her carriage and liveried servants, to insult me and to triumph over me? My ex-governess! I hate her! She blasts my sight. I wish she were dead. I cannot bring about her death, but—I will see if she does not tramp from the liste of Rays. I think I have the lever by which to move her! Yes, my lady Britannis, you shall tramp. We want no second brood of children growing up in the Isle of Rays."

brood of children growing up in the isle of Rays."

The carriage of the Stuart-Gordons returned to the isle of Rays. The level beams of the setting sun were glancing aslant the island, as the carriage, recrossing the bridge, wound on between rows of cool shade trees around the circular road that led up to the front entrance of the Island Palace. The whole front of crystal windows flashed back in streams of dazzling light the very last rays of the level sun, as the carriage paused before the portals.

General Stuart-Gordon was standing, smiling, on the marble steps, waiting to receive his ladies. He advanced to meet them as they alighted—

"Welcome home, ladies!" he said, gladly, as he opened his arms, and, receiving them both in one embrace, pressed them together to his bosom. "You are radiating beauty this evening, my lady Britannia!" he exclaimed, as Brighty, just permitting him to touch her brow with his lips, sprung gaily past him into the house. "And you, also, my little Louise!" he added, detaining her in her intended flight. "One would say that something highly agreeable had happened to you."

"Oh! there has! there has! I have seen mother! dear mother! and it is all made up, and she is coming here to-morrow. Are you not glad!"

"You have just seen 'mother! little darling!

"You have just seen 'mother,' little darling. Well, then, come and kiss father !"
"Oh, I will! I will give you the kiss

mother left upon my lips at parting. It shall be a peace offering—a love offering; take it?" and Louise clasped her arms around his neck and pressed her lips fervently to his.

"You are a sweet girl, Louise!"

"But, oh! did you hear me say that mother was coming here to-morrow!"

"Yes, love, I did! and she shall have such a welcome as shall make her forget everything unwelcome as shall make her forget everything un-pleasant that has pussed between us; and now, my dear, I must go and thank Brighty for having taken you to Mont Crystal so soon."

"No, darling, not yet. Now run, and get ready for dinner, or we shall have to dine by can-Yes, we positively shall have to do hurried off to her room. Upon dressing-table she found a note from Louis. Opening it hastily, she read:

"Dearest: Sudden and urgent business calls me to Peakville. I shall not be able to return to-

FORT MADISON, April 1, 1850.

To the Editor of the National Era Euclosed I send you a call for a public meeting, which was held here last Saturday; its object you can examine. In response to the call, the meeting was held, and adopted resolutions and a preamble expressive of its views on the important subjects which it was convened to consider. The call is signed by men of all political parties, and, as far as it goes in a fair expression of the paper of this signed by men of all political parties, and, as far as it goes, is a fair expression of the people of this State on the questions at issue. The resolutions, &c., adopted at said meeting will be forwarded to you and our Senators and Representatives in Con-gress, as soon as possible; and let me add, that meetings of a similar kind are called in other parts of the State, without any concert of action on our part; a meeting which will express almost the same views, was called, to be held at Keokuk, call, or heard of it. Iowa will yet be heard, and the voice of her people, I trust, will have some influence in the Halls of Congress, in favor of immediately granting to the people of California those rights that the Constitution of the Union says new Stote shall have. Many of the intgrants to that region are our old friends and neighbors, and we know that although most of them go there in order to add to the comforts of those they have left behind, (viz: their families.) still, while there they are American citizens, and are anxious to have law, order, liberty, prevail in their new home. The remarks of certain gentle, en of the Disunion school of politics, made this session in Congress in favor of disunion, and the threats they have made in case they are not permitted to extend a system to the Pacific, (over territery now absolutely free by law, as Senator Benton has fully shown,) that is even by themselves admitted to be an evil, and that tends to interfere with and degrade free labor—I say, said remarks and threats of a violent dissolution of Congress, with-drawing in a body to leave Congress without a quorum, threatening a refusal to vote the usual appropriations, &c., are all treated with the contempt they merit in this State. Yes, sir, lowa is for Union and the Constitution as it is, and glad we are that our Senators and Representatives are ready to say so. Let a single traitorous hand be lifted against its well-being, and the remarks-made by Senator Houston of Texas, and a distinguished member of the House from Pransylvania, would be fully realized. Yes, in such a case, there would be "Millions for defence, but not one cent for tribute," at the mouth of the Mississippi, or anywhere else. It certainly would be a beautiful sight that this great nation would present to such great lovers of order as Nicholas of Russia, the crowned head of Austria, &c., if certain restless spirits in this Republic could succeed in breaking up the Union, because they are not permitted to partition California, and play the despot a little longer, on a smaller scale than their European

brethren.
I enclose an extract from the Whig and Register, published at Keokuk, to show you how they feel and speak here; and our Democratic paper here is equally decided in favor of the same positions. I cannot help expressing my thanks to the Senators and Representatives of the North, and some of the South, too, who have taken a stand in favor of Union and Freedom May they long live to enjoy the confidence and respect of their constituents, and to assist in maintaining this glorious Union, one and indivisible.

of the sort! It was the parting with you, mamma, without taking leave of you. It was the not hearing from you for so long, mamma. And you are looking haggard, mamma; you have been sick."

"I have been sick at heart, Louise!"

"My dear mother!"

"I have been alone, Louise."

"Oh! my dear mother, if you knew how glad! should have been to have had you with us, or to have been with you!"

"The sort! It was the parting with you, mamma, and to assist in maintaining this glorious Union, one and indivisible.

It is due to the Representatives from the State of California that they should know how the people of the North look upon the men who cryone their admission, and be prepared to bis stell in it will soon come, and that as the war! It is, indeed, it has not already, before this is written. We are not willing that the unpeighborly way in which California has been treated by some politicians should incline them—and of course.

politicians should incline them—and of course you ?"

Oregon, also—to an independent existence. They tience, as it is evident to all who examine the subject, that said opposition, if not immediately withdrawn, must be overcome, and they admitted to enjoy their rights. Yours, respectfully, W. L.

## REMARKS OF MR. BAKER, OF ILLINOIS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. the acceptance of Mr. Grinnell's offer of vessel for the Sir John Franklin Expedition.

Mr. BAKER said : I propose to detain the House a few moments. I propose to detain the House a few moments, to express my hearty assent to the resolutions under discussion; and I have deemed it proper to say something in their support, because I represent a district very remote from the ocean, yet one whose inhabitants feel a kindly sympathy for the distinguished navigator, for whom I trust renewed search is to be made. It is objected, sir, that this was an English expedition, to accomplish Reitish nurposes. From whatever port if plish British purposes. From whatever port it may have sailed, and whatever flag it bore, its object was scientific exploration, and its purpose was one of universal benefit. Sir John Franklin and the gallant men who have shared his perils have gone out upon a voyage of discovery, prompted by noble impulses. With no guide but their own genius and Providence, they have sought to accomplish results which are to benefit not only England, but America; not only America ca, but the world; not only this generation, but all generations. Sir, I for one acknowledge the obligations such an enterprise imposes upon civilization everywhere, and I think it just and graceful to stamp the expedition which goes to its relief with a national character.

graceful to stamp the expedition which goes to its relief with a national character.

But it is said that the proposed expedition is one of a private nature, by which the gentleman who equips it seeks to gain some glory to himself. Sir, I am glad it is so. I will grant aid to Mr. Grinnell now, as readily as I would have done to Columbus if I had been a citizen or legislator of Spain in the reign of Ferdinand and lashella. It is this generous love of glory which I admire; it was this which prompted the "world-seeking Genoese" to the noblest enterprise of any age, and kept him firm amid terrified mariners, and on an unknown and stormy sea. It is this which kindles high hearts to all great enterprises; and, sir, when this love of glory seeks it accomplishment in noble discovery and princely munificence, I not only admire but honor it; and I am honored in being allowed to aid it.

But, sir, the whole American people have an interest in these expeditions. It is no longer

But, sir, the whole American people have an interest in these expeditions. It is no longer true of England, that she is the "mistress of the ocean;" we, too, hold our "march, upon the mountain-wave"—our keels vez every sea; and whatever opens new channels of commerce, adds to our wealth and dominion. And yet I am disposed to place the support of this measure upon higher ground. It has been said that literature belongs to rease and no country. It may be rehigher ground. It has been said that literature belongs to no age and no country. It may be repeated of discovery and invention, as the benefit is for all ages and all countries—for the world, and for the whole family of man. So, I trust, an enlightened statesmanship will send forth, in the name of this great nation, messages of cousclation and succor to the absent—not alone to relieve them, but also to assure all who may succeed them in the paths of adventurous peril, that they shall neither be neglected nor forgotten. Nor should the sacredness of misfortnne be overlooked. If these men had sought the northern seas for mere private gain, even then the greatlooked. If these men had sought the northern seas for mere private gain, even then the greatness of their danger would reach the American heart. The noble woman who looks out upon the "melancholy main" with eyes shining with hope, yet dimmed with tears, does not and cannot appeal to us in vain. For one, I shall respond to the call. Here is a public-spirited American merchant, who, with a munificence equalling the merchant princes of Florence, equips his vessels the call. Here is a public-spirited American merchant, who, with a munificence equalling the merchant princes of Florence, equips his vessels and proposes to traverse the unknown regions of the North to restore distinguished men to the world, and husbands and fathers to their homes. He asks the protection of our name and our laws. Sir, let him have them. Let us put our flag at the mast-head, our laws upon the deck, our protection around the ship. It may be our stars may first gleam upon those watching eyes. Think you, sir, they will not hall them with a wilder joy when they come to tell them that America conducts the search?

But it is said that this sympathy is felt for Sir John Franklin because he bears a title. Sir, the title has been earned. It was earned, I believe, as Sir James Ross and Sir John Parry have earned theirs—by courage and devotion, by endurance and skill. The deeds which secure those titles give a nobler distinction than titles can bestow; they live when titles are forgotten, and the men who perform them are nobles, by "a higher patent and an earlier creation."

I agree, Mr. Speaker, with the honorable gentleman from Virginia, [Mr. Bavev,] that his expression, characterizing the proposed expedition

as a "wild goose chase," was most unfortunate; is not worthy of his taste, nor does it do justice to his kindness. Sir, I trust these brave men are yet safe. And if so, the gentleman might have found, in the freshness and variety of his reading, an analogy far more correct and no less elegant than the one with which he has favored us. It is Bryant, I believe, sir, who, in some of the most touching lines he has given the world, describes the solitary way of the given the world, describes the solitary way of the wild bird in heaven, though distant and unseen, the lonely not uncared for. Let us hope that, like that bird, these wanderers may be watched by a gracious eye, and by that benignant

Power whose care Teaches their way along that trackiess coast, The desert and illimitable air-Lone, wandering, but not lost."

From the Cincinnati (O.) Gazette-Whig. BENATOR CHASE ON THE COMPROMISE.

The speech of Mr. Chase in the United States Senate, March 26th, on Mr. Clay's compromise resolutions, fills nearly fifteen columns of the National Intelligencer. It is marked by Mr. Chase's characteristic research and ability, and may be ranked among the ablest efforts which have been elicited in the Senate in the protracted debates upon the subjects of slavery, the Proviso, the admission of California, and topics kindred to these. We are desirous that Mr. Chase should be heard by our readers but are obliged to limit curselves. by our readers, but are obliged to limit ourselves to a brief synopsis of the points advanced by him.

## THE VOICE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

es of the Massachusetts Legislature:

Whereas the people of Massachusetts, acting under a solemn sense of duty, have deliberately and repeatedly avowed their purpose to resist the extension of slavery into the National Territories, or the admission of new slave States into the Union, and, for these ends, to apply in every practical mode the principles of the Ordinance of 1787; also, to seek the abolition of slavery and the slave trade in the District of Columbia, and the withdrawal of the power and influence of the General Government from the support of slavery, so far as the same may be constitutionally done; and whereas the important questions now before the country make it desirable that these convic-tions should be reaffirmed; Therefore,

Resolved, That the people of Massachusetts earnestly insist upon the application by Congress of the Ordinance of 1787, with all possible sanctions and selemnities of law, to the territorial possessions of the Union, in all parts of the con-

sessions of the Union, in all parts of the continent, and for all coming time.

Resolved, That the people of Massachusetts eherish the Union with unabated attachment; that they will support the Constitution; that, appreciating the inestimable benefits flowing from it, they believe it better for all parties and sections, with reference to any existing evils, to wait and work patiently under and through the Constitution, than to destroy it; and they have no doubt that they hold these sentiments in common with overwhelming majorities of the people of these United States; but, in any event, they will follow their principles, deterred by no threats of follow their principles, deterred by no threats of disunion and no fear of consequences.

Resolved, That the integrity and permanence of American power on the Pacific Ocean, the increase of our commerce and wealth, the extension of our institutions, and the cause of human freedom on this continent, require the immediate admission of California into this Union, with her present Constitution, without reference to any other question or measure whatever.

Resolved, That the sentiments of the people of

Massachusetts, as expressed in their legal enact-ments, in relation to the delivering up of fugitive slaves, remain unchanged; and inasmuch as the egislation necessary to give effect to the clause of such claim determined by a jury in the State where such claim is made.

Resolved, That the people of Massachusetts, in the maintainance of these their well-known and invincible principles, expect that all their officers and representatives will adhere to them, at all times, on all occasions, and under all circum-

Resolved, That his Excellency the Governor be requested to transmit a copy of these resolutions to each of the Senators and Representatives of Massachusetts, in the Congress of the United

For the National Era SLAVERY SINFUL IN ITSELF. AND NON-FELLOWSHIP OF THOSE PRACTICING

10th. Others, again, perverting the design of Scripture, say: "We must be subject to the powers that be." What they mean by this man-gled quotation from Rom. xiii, 1, is, that the laws of the land have sanctioned slavery, and we Christians must not oppose these laws, but let the relation of master and slave alone until legislators shall choose to repeal the existing laws. This objection is often raised in our land. We reply: 1. The laws of Kentucky require reply:

1. The laws of Kentucky require no man to buy slaves; nor do they prevent him from emancipating those he now owns; nor do they forbid liberty of speech and of the press to non-slave-holders and others in opposing slavery; but guaranty to all liberty of speech and the press in the most explicit terms. See present Constitution,

article x, section 7.

2. The text, correctly quoted, was never designed to teach that we should refrain from religious duty, because human governments may oppose. On the other hand, the Scriptures plainly teach that we are not to obey human governments when they conflict with conscience—when they require acts either impious or immoral. Thus the three Hebrew children refused to

when they require acts either impious or immoral. Thus the three Hebrew children refused to bow down to Nebuchadnezzar's golden image, though commanded so to do by the laws of the land. The Hebrew midwives refused to put to death the male children, though the King had commanded it. And when the Sanhedrim—"the powers that be "—commanded Peter and John to speak no more in the name of Jesus, they replied, "Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judgeye." Acts iv, 19. The text then, construed so as to harmonize with other Scriptures, means only that we are to be obedient to human governments when they coincide with Divine government—do not interfere with religious or moral duties. To this the context agrees, when it declares that rulers are to be a terror to cvil doers, and that they are to be the "ministers of good to those who do right." See verses 3d and 4th.

The question to be settled by the Apostle was not whether we should in all cases obey rulers, even when they stood opposed to religious duty. This point had been settled. But Judaizing teachers having taught that Christians, being in allegiance to God, ought not to obey heathen or idolatrous governments in any thing, this error the Apostle corrected, by enjoining the general principle of obedience, declaring that government is of Divine appointment; and ruling in their appropriate sphere, rulers are to be obeyed. But this obedience to government is not, from what we have seen, to be so construed as to hinder us from doing duty to God or to man.

3. These objectors do not suppose that their obedience "to the powers that be" is to be so construed as to prevent them from acting in the temperance cause and other questions of reform. Though dram-selling is sanctioned by the laws of the land, yet they feel that neither individual Christians nor churches should sanction the practice. We should be careful that in our eagerness to find excuses to gree us from action and responsibility, we do not "steal the livery of Heaven t

fundamental principle in human government— personal liberty; and because governments have legislated upon it. It also involves a moral or religious question, because it takes away from man his dearest right—his right to personal

ownership; it violates a fundamental principle of God's religion, "Love to our neighbor as our-selves," and it involves a positive duty on our part: "Remember those in bonds as bound with them"—Heb. xiii, 3. "Do unto others as you would they should do to you;" and at the judgment day Christ will say to those who neglect his representatives or his creatures. "Insamuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these my as ye did it not to one of the least of these my creatures, (that is, as the context shows, acts of mercy.) ye did it not to me. Depart, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels." It is at the peril of our souls' salvation to neglect to plead and labor for the oppressed. It is a religious duty. "Pure and undefiled religion," says James, "is to visit the fatherless and the widow in their affliction, and to keep ourselves unspotted from the world." Every man knows that it is as much our duty to visit the motherless in their affliction, as the fatherless. But the design in the text is, to take specific ca-But the design in the text is, to take specific ca-ses, the fatherless and the widow, as illustrations of a general principle—mercy or love—and there-by show that religion consists in two things: acts by show that religion consists in two things: acts of mercy to man, and purity before God, answering to what is taught in other places, that religion consists in love to God and love to man. To plead for the oppressed is then a religious duty.

3. Christians do not excuse themselves from

duty or responsibility on other questions, merely because they may have also a political character or aspect. The observance of the Sabbath, dram-selling, adultery, theft, and murder, all these are political questions—the Legislatures have passed laws concerning them. But do Christians and churches plead that they have nothing to do with churches plead that they have nothing to do with these questions, because they are political questions? Will the preachers be silent, and will the churches refuse discipline on these questions, because the Legislatures have passed laws concerning them? No! And they would not refuse to speak and act on this question of slavery, were it not for interest, fear of public sentiment, or, with some, false notions of religious duty.

We have frequently noticed that some of these preachers, Christians, and churches, do not refuse action when they have a chance to please public.

action when they have a chance to please public sentiment, promote the interest of the master, and rivet tighter the chains of the slave. We awfully fear that some of these Christians are not dealing faithfully with their own souls, as

well as neglecting God's poor.

The religion of Christ, as illustrated by himother side, as the Priest and Levitedid, but to go to the suffering man, pour in his wounds the oil and the wine of comfort, place him upon our own beast, take him to the inn, a place where his wants can be supplied, thrust our hands in our pockets and defrag expenses, until the robbed and bruised man is healed. This is the religion of Christ.

12th. "Well," says another, "I believe slavery is a great sin, and that the church ought not to

is a great sin, and that the church ought not to fellowship it, but these divisions and discussions cause so much fuss and opposition that I think they do more harm than good—peace is best."

True, peace is best; but to be lasting, and acceptable to God, it must be on right principles. James says, "The wisdom which is from above is first your then procedule—full of march." above is first Pure, then peaceable—full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hy-poerisy." James iii, 17. But to sustain churches practicing or sanctioning "the most atrocious of all evils," "the sum of all villanies"—manstealing, extortion, adultery, and fornication—is this "PURITY?" is this the wisdom sent down from above, and recorded in 1 Cor., v, 10, 11, 13, and I Tim, i, 10? Brother, good as are your intentions, and much as you think it religion, it is the prompting of selfish ease, the policy that cries, "a little more folding of the hands to sleep"—of the sloth that sleeps well fed from the

Yes, reader, at the present time, in our own State, and in all the States of the South, the slave-coffles may be seen marching in sad procession along our highways. The groups of innocent men and women, sold by members of our churches, may be heard in our prisons, and the slambing of their chains in our streets. And you need but read the journals of the day, or open your eyes and look around you, to be convinced of the fact. And all this without a single word of rebuke or admonition from the churches. Yes, brother, your ease is bought by the smothered groans of fathers, the wailing of mothers, and the shrieks of innocent children—the crushed rights of three millions of slaves, and the damnation of masters, mistresses, sons, and daughter, tormenting each other with death-groans. Wil

you ask for peace upon such conditions?

And do you expect to expel such an enemy without a struggle? Can you extract a tooth of many fangs without pain, or dig up the sturdy oak of the forest without blows? And when an institution like American slavery has shot its roots deep, entwined around the interests and prejudices of men, pervading every department of society, entrenched behind law, feigaedly sanctioned by religion, and hallowed by time—are we to expect such an institution to be removed without commotion? Those who do, declare at once their own faint hearts, or a want of reflection. Let not our ecclesiastical bodies any longer boast of the ease with which they disposed of the claims of three millions of slaves—of the lullabys they sung, and the harmony they enjoyed in rejecting the piteous cry of the poor bondmen.

There were those in olden time who cried, "Peace, peace, when there was no peace." And shall a Christian now ask for peace when the stone out of the wall and the beam out of the timber is ready to cry out—when the public institution like American slavery has shot its

timber is ready to cry out—when the public mind is surging like a troubled ocean, and the crash of falling churches, daubed with untempered mortar, is like the sound of a coming earthquake? He is a faint-hearted physician that

out the festering cause.

Also, the Saviour has told us that he "came not to send peace, but a sword." Math. x, 34.
That is, although the Gospel itself is pure and
gentle in its tendencies, yet those practicing iniquitous systems or wrongs of any kind will op-

y of me."
And let us consider the example of Christ, who left the peace and glory which he had with the Father, came down to earth, and in his labors of Father, came down to earth, and in his islors of doing good, suffered privation, hardship, persecution, and shame. Yes "the chastisement of our peace was laid on him?" And shall not we, who have freely received, freely give?

have freely received, freely give?

So long as we wear the name of Christ, of Christ, of Christian, let us blush for shame, if we ever again. ask for peace whilst a single slave pitcously groans beneath the galling yoke or the clanking

Cabin Creek, Kentucky.

[TO ME CONTINUED.]

## AMERICAN AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY

held in the Broadway Tabernacle, New York May 7th, at three o'clock, P. M. Selections o

May 7th, at three o'clock, P. M. Selections of Scripture were read, and prayer offered.

The following abstract of the Annual Report was then presented by the Corresponding Secretary, Lewis Tappan:

The Report shows that the intention of our forefathers in esteablishing the great principle of the equality of man has, thus far, been most signally defeated by an oligarchy of a twenty-fifth part of the legal voters, who by menace and strategy have contrived to govern the nation during three-fourths of the time since the Government was organized. It takes notice of the 'vicious during three-fourths of the time since the Government was organized. It takes notice of the 'vicious bargain' imputed to the framers of the Constitution, and shows that they expected that slavery would soon die out, and that it exists in despite of the spirit of the Declaration and Constitution; Slavery has been prevented from extending to the Pacific by anti-slavery efforts, and a vigorous continuance of them will save New Mexico and Utah from the accurred system. Abolitionists are

continuance of them will mave New Mexico and Utah from the accursed system; Abolitionists are called upon to renew their exertions, and to persevere to the end.

The Executive Committee have employed agents to distribute their publications in California, and have in press an Address to the inhabitants of New Mexico, both in Spanish and English, showing the unprofitableness of slave labor;

eign countries. The means to carry on the op erations of the Society have been contributed by the members of the Committee and other friends of the cause, and after all the expenditures, there remains in the treasury upwards of two thousand

remains in the treasury upwards of two thousand dollars.

A survey of the history of the Anti-Slavery cause for the year is then taken, in relation to the action of Ecclesiastical bodies, of Congress, and State Legislatures, reference is made to the distribution of the Bible among slaves, to the state of religion at the South, to the moral destitution of slave States, to the unequal political power of the North and South, to the Nashville Convention, to the apostacy of Webster, to his new views of the Wilmot Proviso, returning fugitives, and Colonization Society; to the attempt by Foote and Clay to compromise between Freedom and Slavery, to the noble effort of Benton, to the moral heroism of the Leonidas band of Free-Sollers in Congress, to Seward's high moral position in the Senate, to the question respecting fugitives, to the iniquitous laws and usages respecting people of color, to their improvement in various ways, to Caste, to the Colonization Society, to Slavery and the Slave Trade as they now exist in Washington the Slave Trade as they now exist in Washington and the slave States, to the arrogance of the slave power, to the treatment of Nothern citizens at the South, to the violence on the post office in South Carolina, to the moral destitution of the South and the corrupt state of its theology, to the in-creasing anti-slavery feeling and sentiment at the South, to the free and pro-slavery press at the North, to the state of things in the West Indies and other foreign countries, and to the work de-manded of all who hate Slavery and love their

A review is taken of the doings of the General Assemblies of the Presbyterian Church, O. S. and N. S., and of the American Board of Commission-ers for Foreign Missions, and mention is made of ers for Foreign Missions, and mention is made of the advice to the latter by the Dutch Reformed Church; the position of the American Home Missionary Society with regard to slavery is no-ticed; and also a statement made of the action of the General Association of Connecticut, Dr. Ba-con's Report, &c., of the New England Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church; of the op-position of a Southern association to man's natural rights, and the injurious advice and statements

given by Southern ministers at our theological seminaries and public meetings.

against slavery by the following ecclesiastical bodies: The General Association of Mass. Convention of Congregational ministers of Mass, the Presbyteries of Franklin, O., Ottawa, Ill., Marion, Io., Indianapolis, Ind., West Alexander, Pa., the Synod of Illinois, Free Synod of Cincinnati, Reformed Presbyterian Synod of North America, N. Y. Synod of Associate Reformed Church, Iowa State Convention of Universalists, Independent Congregational Church at Brownhelm, O., Cen-tral Association of Illinois, the American Baptist Free Mission Society, American Missionary As-sociation, Wisconsin Conference of Wesleyan Methodist Connection, the Christian Anti-Slavery Convention at Cincinnati. The latter body resolved unanimously to withdraw from slaveholding churches, and churches and ecclesiastical bodies holding fellowship with slaveholders, and from

missionary societies having any connection with the sin of slavery. It is stated that the General Assembly, O. S., It is stated that the General Assembly, O.S., was memorialized to declare slavery a sin, to prepare a plan of abolition, and to alter certain terms and passages in the Act of 1845, relating to slavery, and that resolutions were adopted, in reply—with only one dissenting voice—that the subject belongs to secular rather than ecclesiastical legislatures; that the Assembly has said and done all it can with propriety; that it aims to keep free from

acter continues pro-slavery. The Report speaks of the great parade made by the N. S. Assembly in styling slavery a sin, ke, and those who hold slaves in the legal sense as summer against God and man, while slaveholding ministers are fellow. shiped, and no discipline is recommended to the churches; of the attempt made in the Assembly, to prevent anti-slavery discussion; and of the great dissatisfaction which its proceedings have

The Report states that the A. B. C. F. M. disappointed and grieved the friends of the slave at appointed and grieved the friends of the slave at their last meeting; that Mr. Trent's highly sat-isfactory letter has been virtually withdrawn, and its position abandoned; that the Board seems de-termined to allow the admission of slaveholders into the mission churches. In answer to the doc-trine that only the abuses of slavery are sinful, it is affirmed that the abuses are part and parcel of is affirmed that the abuses are part and parcel of the system. The Board is conjured to use its in-fluence legitimately against slavery, for the recti-fication of public sentiment at home, and the pro-motion of a higher Christian practice in the churches, inasmuch as the more elevated is the moral sense of the nation, the more abundant will be the aid afforded in the work of miscan expect to retain the confidence of Christians

mission churches. The prosperous condition and increased resources of the American Missionary Association is mentioned, which is ascribed, under God, to its strict anti-slavery character, at home and abroad; also, the success of its colporteurs in distributing Bibles in slave States, and of its missionaries in establishing churches that have no fellowship with slaveholders.

The American Home Missionary Society is complained of for requiring that the credentials of its missionaries sent into slaveholding communities be acceptable to the ministerial body of their denominatian within whose bounds they are appointed to labor; that, according to common belief, its fifty Missionaries in the slave States all receive slaveholders to the communion of the church as Christians in good standing; that its missionaries in the slave States collect funds for the Society, which flow into its common treasury; and it is shown that the assertion, that no missionary would be suffered to reside or preach in any slave State, who should inculcate an anti-slavery Gospel, is incorrect, as missionaries sustained by other societies do preach such a Gospel, and from such churches there.

The Report states that the common opinion, The American Home Missionary Society is cot

The Report states that the common opinion, that the Methodist Episcopal Church, North, is anti-slavery, is a mistake; that the action of the General Conference which led to the separation anti slavery, is a mistake; that the action of the General Conference which it d to the separation was not against slavery or slaveholding by the membership or ministry, but simply by the Episcopacy, and that not upon principle, but on the ground of expediency, brought about by the Southern, and not by the Northern members, who did what they could to prevent it. It is stated that official documents show that there are at the present time in the Northern General Conference eight annual Conferences, a part of the whole of whose territory is in the slaveholding States, and that it is computed that there are in that part of the church not less than four thousand slaveholders, and twenty-seven thousand slaves.

The Report speaks highly of the thorough antislavery character of the Wesleyan Methodist Connection, which has extended its operations through all the free States, has twelve yearly Conferences, more than twenty thousand communicants, and not less than five hundred ministers, three of whom are laboring with great success in Virginia and North Carolina—one of them having been three times put upon his trial in Virginia on the accusation of violating the slave laws; but he is still at large, preaching an anti-slavery Gospel. This example is held up for the imitation of the American Home Missionary Society and kindred bodies.